



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Texas Chenier Plain NWR Complex
P.O. Box 278
Anahuac, Texas 77514
Phone: (409) 267-3337 Fax: (409)267-4314



June 5, 2006

Dear Reviewer:

This is to provide notification of availability of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) *Draft Environmental Assessment* for review and comment. The *Draft Environmental Assessment* addresses the issuance of a Special Use Permit by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for a proposed oil and gas exploration and development project on the Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge. The oil and natural gas drilling and production project is proposed by Denali Oil and Gas, Inc. (Denali) of Houston, Texas. Denali possesses valid leases to explore and/or develop oil and gas reserves underlying the refuge from the rightful mineral owners. The Service must allow reasonable use of the surface of the refuge for these activities.

The purpose of the Federal action is to manage the proposed oil and gas exploration and development activities through issuance of a Special Use Permit, such that these activities will have the least environmental consequences possible. Issuance of the SUP in the end should protect the human environment in such a way as to further the Refuge's efforts to achieve its established purposes, and the general resource conservation mission of the Service.

Your comments on the *Draft Environmental Assessment* would be appreciated. The documents can be accessed at the following website: <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/texas/anahuac>. Hard copies of the document are available from FWS offices in Anahuac, Texas, and the document can be reviewed at area libraries. Comments are requested in writing by July 5, 2006. Please send your comments to: Refuge Manager, Texas Chenier Plain NWR Complex, P.O. Box 278, Anahuac, TX 77514. If you have any questions, please contact Refuge Complex Manager Andy Loranger at (409) 267-3337. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Andy Loranger
Refuge Complex Project Leader